

# Inside & Out

JULY, 1987

COMPAQ® NEWS

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 5



**COMPAQ computers  
go to Washington, D.C.**

**Beneath the Bahamas:  
'Blue Holes' lure scientists**

**Manufacturing facility  
starts up in Singapore**

**Washington Special Olympics  
scored with COMPAQ computers**



# WHAT’S INSIDE

## COVER STORY

Government: one of the largest personal computer markets ..... 3

## WHAT’S NEWS

Manufacturing facility opens in Singapore ..... 5

Seen in the press ..... 6

Evacuation drill surpasses industry standard ..... 6

‘Meet me at the flagpole’ ..... 6

Beneath the Bahamas: ‘Blue Holes’ lure scientists ..... 7

MS-DOS transition ..... 9

Disk caching extended to additional models ..... 9

Prices reduced on several products ..... 9

Heavy traffic enroute, at work ..... 9

Writer to answer question of how to get published ..... 10

Scotland plant progresses ..... 10

Art collection offers diversity ..... 11

Subsidiary announced in Spain ..... 11

Lunchroom tricks ..... 12

For emergencies: call 374-1000 ..... 12

Safety, security tips offered for travelers ..... 12

Computer Q & A ..... 13

Volunteer efforts spur activities, offer experience ..... 14

Preview ..... 15

Washington Special Olympics scored with COMPAQ Computers ..... 16

## ABOUT THE COVER

The United States government is one of the largest markets for personal computers, estimated to purchase one out of every three personal computers sold in the country

COMPAQ®, COMPAQ PLUS®, COMPAQ DESKPRO®, COMPAQ PORTABLE II®, COMPAQ PORTABLE 286® and COMPAQ DESKPRO 286® are registered trademarks of Compaq Computer Corporation. COMPAQ DESKPRO 386™ and COMPAQ PORTABLE III™ are trademarks of Compaq Computer Corporation.

This newsletter is published by Compaq Computer Corporation with the sole intent of communicating with the employees. Subject matter printed in this newsletter is considered company confidential and should not be reproduced or distributed to the general public, or those not directly affiliated with Compaq Computer Corporation. Reproduction of this document in part or in whole without prior consent of Compaq Computer Corporation is prohibited.

© Copyright 1987 Compaq Computer Corporation. All rights reserved.

Printed in U.S.A.



# Government: one of largest markets for personal computers

**H**uge marble pillars and sleek granite monuments. Black limousines gliding down broad avenues. Hundreds of American flags linking the museums that hold America's treasures.

These are a few of the images one can experience in the capital of the United States, Washington, D.C. Home to the President, legislators, and hundreds of foreign dignitaries, this city is an undisputed seat of power.

Today, men and women throughout the federal government are relying on personal computers to help them write the reports and analyze the statistics that determine national policies. It is estimated that one out of every three personal computers sold in the United States is sold to the government market.

COMPAQ products are used throughout the government, from agency offices in Washington, D.C. to field offices in Iowa and vessels across the world's oceans. Their diverse uses include helping to monitor the nation's banks and determining which crops may be planted in coming years.

The Navy is experimenting with the COMPAQ DESKPRO 386™ to streamline the long and detailed operations associated with cargo transport. The Marines are using COMPAQ products for logistic control in the field. Individual senators and congressman are using COMPAQ products in their offices.

## Alphabet soup

Pinpointing who exactly in the government uses COMPAQ Personal Computers is a bit like examining a bowl of alphabet soup. That is, you'll see lots of letters that don't seem to spell any-



*Crop data analysis helps determine what crops, and how much, to produce. The information can ultimately affect the price of corn in the grocery store*

thing in particular. But what those letters stand for are the names of a variety of government organizations. Among the users of COMPAQ products are the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration), USMC (United States Marine Corps), USDA (United States Department of Agriculture), IRS (Internal Revenue Service), FDIC (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation), NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration), and CBO (Congressional Budget Office) to name but a few.

Behind these lofty-sounding acro-

nyms are some very down-to-earth activities.

Perhaps nothing is more literally down to earth than agriculture. These are the matters most important to the USDA, the United States Department of Agriculture. The Department's NASS (National Agricultural Statistical Service) publishes the many crop and livestock reports which are used by farmers, businessmen and even Wall Street traders.

A NASS report which predicts a short-term overabundance of corn could help a farmer decide to plant less corn in the near future. The same report could also help a seed manufacturer determine the amount of seed corn to produce, and it could depress the price of corn on the commodities market. Ultimately, these reports can affect the price of a can of corn on the grocery store shelf.

NASS must gather data from thousands of farms, granaries and meat processors around the country in order to keep its reports accurate. "The analysis of this data can be extremely time-consuming," noted Art Beil, Head of the Information Center for NASS. "We've found the COMPAQ DESKPRO 386 to be a big advantage in analyzing the data."

In addition to its facilities in Washington, D.C., NASS has 44 state offices, some with as few as three professional staffers, others with as many as 50 professionals. "We have the COMPAQ DESKPRO 386 in about two dozen of the field locations," Beil said. "We can use them to issue state crop weather reports, to help check in data, and to perform all sorts of county and local analyses."

Beil explained that these offices are all fairly independent. In the future, the COMPAQ DESKPRO 386 may help move information more quickly from one

office to another. "Right now, we're experimenting with PC-MOS from Software Link, Inc. for multitasking/multiuser capabilities. If everything works out, our COMPAQ computers will form the basis of a new system that promises a lot of flexibility."

Because NASS deals with an enormous volume of data, processing speed is an important factor. Beil estimates that the COMPAQ DESKPRO 386 helps run programs two to four times faster than their previously fastest personal computers.

"It's less expensive, too, than paying the time on the mainframe. Our personal computers are a fixed-cost resource, so the more analysis we can do on them, the better," he said.

## Assisting congress

Several blocks away from NASS, in the shadows of the dome of the United States Capitol, is CBO, the Congressional Budget Office.

As its name indicates, the CBO deals with issues involving the national budget. Specifically, CBO gives the 435 members of the House of Representatives a clear idea of the real costs of executing a given piece of legislation.

CBO was created by the Federal Budget Act of 1974 as an independent group, not associated with any political party. This independence is very important, according to Dan Zimmerman, Chief of Systems Development and Research for the CBO.

"Our numbers are quite accurate because we don't have flowery political assumptions," he said. "As an example, the national budget, which comes out of the Executive branch, may make projections using a certain rate of inflation. Based on all of our figures, we at the Congressional Budget Office may say that the rate of inflation is probably going to be higher, and we'll give a

Continued . . .



*The portability of COMPAQ computers comes in handy for the FDIC*



different analysis of the budget."

Zimmerman explained his office does not make recommendations. "We present facts to all sides and encourage them to make their own decisions," he said.

One section of CBO is its budget analysis division, which determines costs for each of the hundreds of bills introduced annually in Congress. There are also several program divisions, which do long-term budget studies in areas such as human resources, tax analysis and natural resources. To arrive at its findings, the office generates thousands of spreadsheets each year.

Zimmerman has found the COMPAQ DESKPRO 386 to be a tremendous asset in running those spreadsheets. Zimmerman estimates that the computers are used 80-85% for that purpose. He added that the speed and power of the COMPAQ DESKPRO 386 "allow us to do estimates and projections which were heretofore impossible."

Microprocessing has been an invaluable resource to the CBO when Congressional committees decide to modify bills. A congressman might ask how cutting one part of a bill by 10% might change the overall cost of the bill. The CBO can enter the information and come up with the answer in moments.

"Our office only has about 220 employees, and a huge workload," Zimmerman said. "We really rely on technology to help us work smarter."

#### Federal flexibility

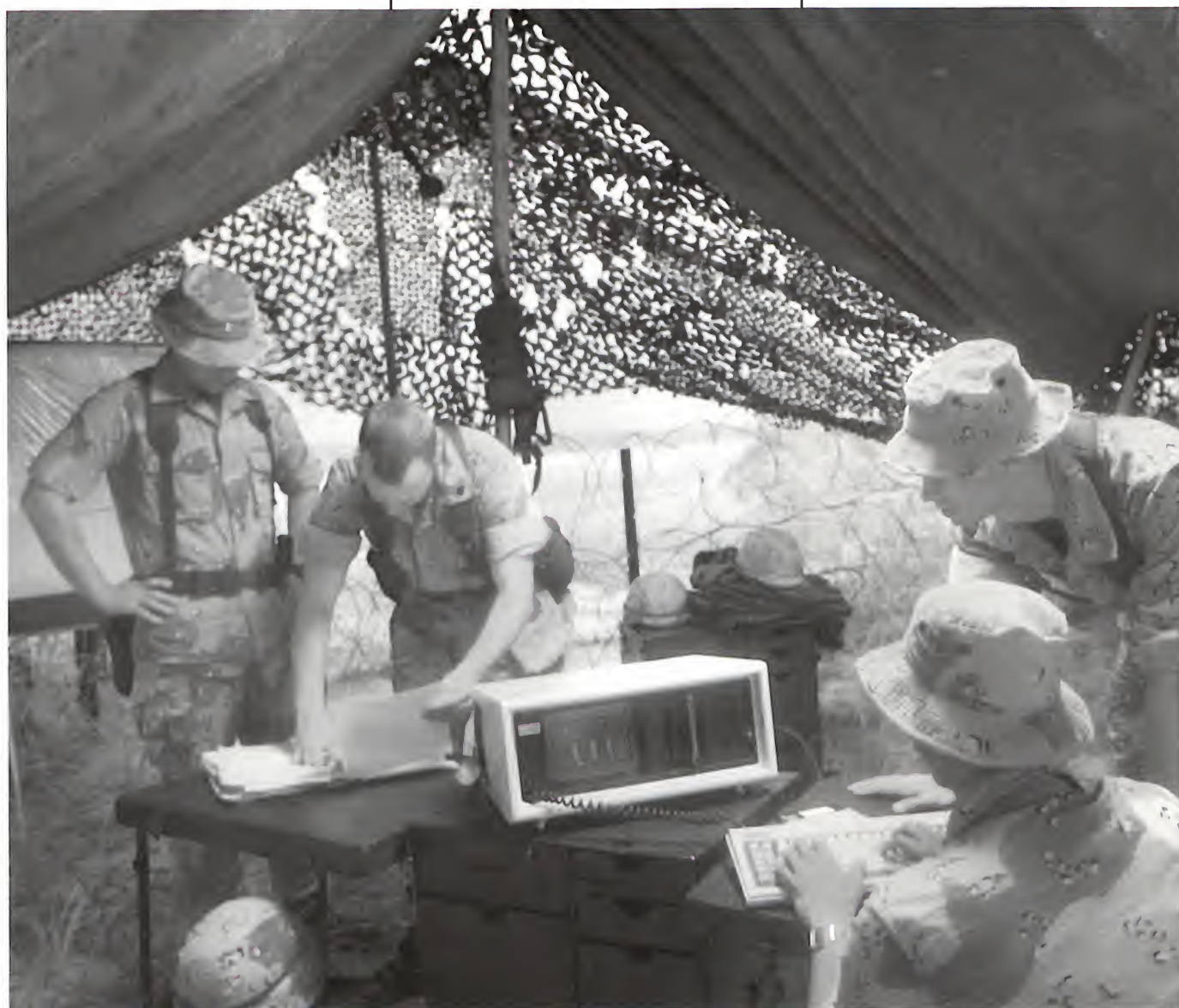
One major user of COMPAQ Portable computers throughout the country is the FDIC, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

"The FDIC is responsible for the safety and soundness of approximately 8,500 banks," explained Joe Jennings, Section Chief for the FDIC.

The nation's 15,000 insured banks are covered by either the Federal Reserve Board or the FDIC. It is the responsibility of the FDIC to evaluate the institutions for which they are responsible. The FDIC scrutinizes the management, loan portfolios, policies and other data to be sure that these banks deserve their insured status.

The FDIC uses two means of examining the banks. One is "off-site surveillance," which requires member banks to submit quarterly reports for FDIC review. The other is on-site examinations, during which FDIC examiners make surprise visits to banks. COMPAQ Personal Computers play a significant role in the latter.

"An examiner visits a bank and runs a series of evaluations," Jennings said. "At the end of this visit, the examiner produces a 'report of examination' that could be as many as 100 pages long. Believe it or not, until a few years



*The Marines have landed with a COMPAQ personal computer*

ago, we did this all on manual typewriters. It was really the Dark Ages."

Today the FDIC has approximately 700 COMPAQ Personal Computers which examiners take with them on their visits. Their reports are produced far more quickly than in the past and look more professional, which "is a great morale boost," according to Jennings.

When a financial institution shows signs of serious trouble, examiners may prepare a "bid package". This is an assortment of data that may help other banks decide if they want to bid on buying out the troubled bank. As the bank's conditions evolve, examiners can use their COMPAQ Portable Computers to update the bid packages in minutes.

Currently, the FDIC has one COMPAQ Portable Computer for roughly every three employees. Jennings said that the goal in the next few years is to have one for each examiner, which would make operations still more efficient.

#### Compaq government sales

The ready acceptance of COMPAQ products into the government has been boosted by a specific sales effort to this market.

Key to this effort is another one of the government's alphabet soup acronyms: GSA. This stands for the General

Services Administration which each year awards schedules of products which government agencies can purchase at pre-negotiated prices under pre-negotiated terms and conditions. Without these schedules, agencies would have to go through a time-consuming bid process for each purchase it wanted to make.

For the past few years, COMPAQ products have appeared on the GSA schedule. This makes it highly convenient for interested government buyers to purchase COMPAQ products. Compaq has similar contracts with the states of Georgia, Florida and Kentucky.

Potential clients also want specific information about the products and their capabilities, as well as the assurance of repair and other support. For this, they turn to Authorized COMPAQ Computer Government Dealers.

The company's government sales efforts differ somewhat from those of other personal computer manufacturers, explained Joseph Blog, Director, Government Marketing and Sales.

"Normally, government purchasers work directly with a supplier or with members of a supplier's direct sales force," Blog noted. "COMPAQ works exclusively through Authorized Government Dealers. Orders are sent directly to Compaq; the buyer indicates an Autho-



**Mike Hunsaker**

rized Government Dealer who provides support through installation and service of the product.

Mike Hunsaker, National Manager, Government Sales, is enthusiastic at the prospects for continued sales of COMPAQ products to the government. He explained that the federal government is not only the largest business in the nation, but is "a great customer, and will be around for a while."



# Manufacturing facility opens in Singapore

Opening ceremonies were held June 12 for the company's printed circuit board facility in Singapore. This is the company's first manufacturing facility outside the United States.

The operation, which assembles printed circuit boards, started up in May. By the end of 1987, the monthly production rate is expected to exceed 40,000 units.

The company's principal circuit board assembly operation is located at its headquarters site in Houston.

The Singapore facility was scheduled to begin shipping completed boards in June. The boards will be shipped to manufacturing operations in Houston, and also to Scotland later this year when that computer manufacturing facility becomes operational.

"This will be the center of our operations in this part of the world," said Compaq President Rod Canion in ceremonies at the Singapore site. "While Compaq is and will remain primarily a United States-based manufacturer, our new Singapore facility will help us meet the growing demand for our personal computers through quicker delivery of materials to our facilities in Houston and in Erskine, Scotland."

Also speaking at the event were Daryl Arnold, United States Ambassador to Singapore, and Tan Chin Nam, General Manager of the Singapore Economic Development Board.

The Singapore manufacturing operation is part of Compaq Asia PTE LTD, a subsidiary of Compaq Computer Corporation. This installation includes an international procurement office, which supervises the company's material procurement in Asia.

The Singapore facility assembles printed circuit boards using through-hole technology. However, the company plans to install a surface mount technology line later this year. The company's initial investment this year in Singapore will exceed \$4 million (U.S.).

Compaq Asia employs 110 people in Singapore. That number is expected to grow to 250 by the end of 1987.



*Steve Hamblin heads the Singapore operation, which started up in late May and early June. The facility is expected to employ 250 people by the end of 1987*



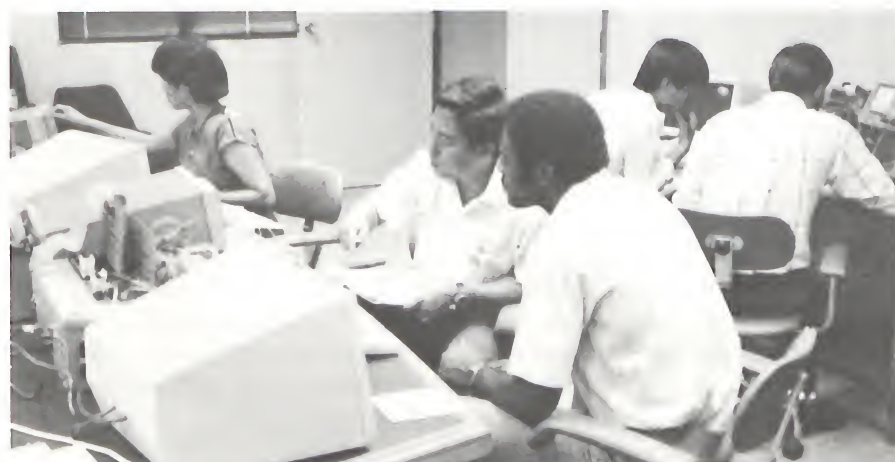
*A scenic view of the skyline of Singapore*



*Compaq leased extensive space in a building in Singapore, then spent several months building out the interior to meet manufacturing and support requirements. The Singapore operation includes an international procurement office*



*The company's first manufacturing facility outside the United States recently celebrated its opening in Singapore*



*◀ Willie Larry, third from the right, was among the instructors from the Training & Development department, in Houston, who conducted training classes for Compaq personnel in Singapore*



# Seen in the press

“After stumbling through two years of disappointing growth, the personal computer industry is roaring back. Riding a wave of new technology and sharply lower prices, everyone from industry giant IBM to the humblest garage-shop assembler of clones is enjoying the bounty. Industry suppliers also are rebounding; after two years in the doldrums, semiconductor makers are showing new signs of life...”

“High-end retailers, who emphasize service over price, are prospering. Says Enzo Torresi, senior vice president of Businessland: ‘We are now expecting growth of 30% this year — about double the most optimistic forecast at the beginning of the year.’ Businessland’s average sale is \$7,000...”

“Compaq Computer Corporation’s powerful portables are being used increasingly as sales tools. For example, Paccar Corporation, which makes Peterbilt trucks, just bought 75 COMPAQ portable personal computers, which allow its salesmen to instantly price custom-built big rigs based on the options a buyer selects.

“‘Between different cabs, engines, transmissions and so forth, our buyers literally have thousands of options,’ explains Alan Bennett, who is managing the automation project for Paccar. The program is so complex that it would not have worked on earlier-generation personal computers...The computers have proven to be such valuable sales tools that Paccar expects that all of its 1,000 truck sales force will soon order the machines.”

**Los Angeles Times**  
May 31, 1987

“Two months after IBM Corp. introduced its PS/2 line, the top executives of Tandy Corporation and Compaq

Computer Corporation responded last week in separate addresses with predictions that the future of the personal computer lies with systems that are OS/2-software compatible, not necessarily PS/2-hardware compatible.

“The remarks, designed to boost support for Compaq and Tandy existing lines, also emphasized that those two companies’ 80286 computers are fully compatible with pre-released versions of OS/2, the next-generation operating system currently under development at Microsoft Corp.

“‘Contemporary compatibility means software (OS/2) compatibility,’ said John Roach of Tandy, in an address to New York stock analysts. ‘Hardware compatibility is a dying issue.’ To illustrate his assertion, Tandy’s 80286 computer was shown running a pre-released version of OS-2.”

**Computer Reseller News**  
June 1, 1987

“The chief executives of Compaq Computer Corporation and Tandy Corporation last week confirmed plans to make Microsoft’s OS/2 operating system available on their personal computers, but also predicted MS-DOS would remain the dominant standard for years to come.”

**Electronic News**  
June 1, 1987

“We are hardly seeing the kind of mass migration to IBM’s new products that some have expected,” said Rod Canon, whose company produces IBM PC-compatible microcomputers.

“Canon said the hardware and software technology advances in the PS/2 computers could have been as eas-

## Evacuation surpasses industry standards

Compaq recently exceeded industry standards in a new area. During a recent evacuation drill at Compaq Center Administration — the first since all three connecting buildings were completed — people cleared the buildings in 6½ minutes.

The industry standard for clearing such a site is 15 minutes, according to Corporate Loss Prevention, whose staffers were “very pleased” with the results.

## ‘Meet me at the flagpole’

“You know, I’m kind of upset,” confided Fred Cutler, Director, Strategic Marketing, as he and a colleague participated in a recent evacuation drill. He and his co-worker were among several hundred people standing beneath the gently waving flags on the Compaq Center Plaza as Loss Prevention personnel checked how quickly and efficiently

the buildings could be cleared in the event of an emergency.

“I have a visitor coming for a very important meeting,” he explained as he gazed at the crowd gathered around the flags, the plaza’s most prominent attraction. “I told him to meet me at the flagpole.”



Compaq President Rod Canon on cover of current BusinessWeek

ily accomplished with the existing PC standard. The advances, Canon said, do not justify forcing users to migrate to an architecture that is incompatible with the 8 million existing IBM-compatible workstations and the more than \$80 billion invested in industry-standard hardware and software. For that reason, Canon thinks two industry standards will co-exist: the de facto PC standard and the new IBM PS/2 architecture.

“Although Compaq is ‘committed’ to supporting the existing PC standards, especially the PC/XT and PC AT, the company also is developing plans to support the new PS/2 architecture, especially the micro channel bus, Canon said. ‘We’re not arrogant or dumb,’ he said.”

**Government Computer News**  
June 5, 1987

“Oddly for a young company Compaq Computer Corporation’s greatest strength appears to be good management. From the beginning it has relied on a tightly knit group of seasoned industry veterans to give it management depth. Of the company’s 21 officers, 17 are Texas Instruments alumni who had as much as 21 years of experience... Canon’s philosophy is the company’s byword: Stick with what you know — and do it better than anyone else.

“Experienced management helped Compaq sidestep the pitfalls that eliminated most of its original competitors. Those companies fell victim to a variety of marketing, distribution and financing problems when the personal computer boom began slowing in late 1984. With

tight controls, Compaq sailed through the 1985-86 computer slump — without the kind of earnings drop that Apple Computer Inc. took as a result of inventory write-downs and layoffs.

“The key to Compaq Computer Corporation’s success seems to be the right blend of engineering and marketing savvy. It is the only major maker of IBM-compatible personal computers that does all its own reverse engineering — the process of coming up with the electronic circuits and software that duplicate the functions of the IBM PC. ‘Their engineering is top-notch,’ says Jean-Claude Cornet, vice-president of Intel Corp.’s microcomputer group, the supplier of microchips for IBM and IBM-compatible personal computers. But the company also pays close attention to what the market folks say. ‘They haven’t become so bureaucratic that they can’t respond to customers,’ says Sherrie L. Burger, manager of office information systems at Blue Cross/Blue Shield in Chicago.

“... Compaq maintains close relationships with its customers, dealers, and suppliers, using them as a sounding board. ‘Some companies think they know the answers,’ says Jeffrey D. McKeever, president of MicroAge Inc., a 176-unit chain. ‘Compaq listens.’

“McKeever suggested in 1984 that Compaq offer a built-in tape drive for duplicating the contents of a hard disk to protect against accidents. Compaq followed his advice, and the feature — not then available on IBM personal computers — became a major selling point.”

**BusinessWeek**  
June 29, 1987



# Beneath the Bahamas: 'Blue Holes' lure scientists

**D**eep beneath the warm, shallow seas and the bright limestone islands of the Bahamas are caves. Not the ordinary river caves of limestone mountains and plains elsewhere in the world, but complex three-dimensional mazes of passages, filled to the roof with water.

They are linked in a curious network of tunnels which contain not only peculiar creatures new to science, but much in the way of geological and hydrological information that scientists are keen to get their hands on. A project to gather this information is underway, using COMPAQ computers to plan logistics, collate data and carry out related tasks.

COMPAQ Computer Limited, in the United Kingdom, supplied the computers for the project. In 1986, a COMPAQ PORTABLE II was used at the expedition's base camp for analysis; this year, a major computer function will involve working out specialized decompression plans for divers before each

dive, and quickly revising them if any variation occurs in a dive.

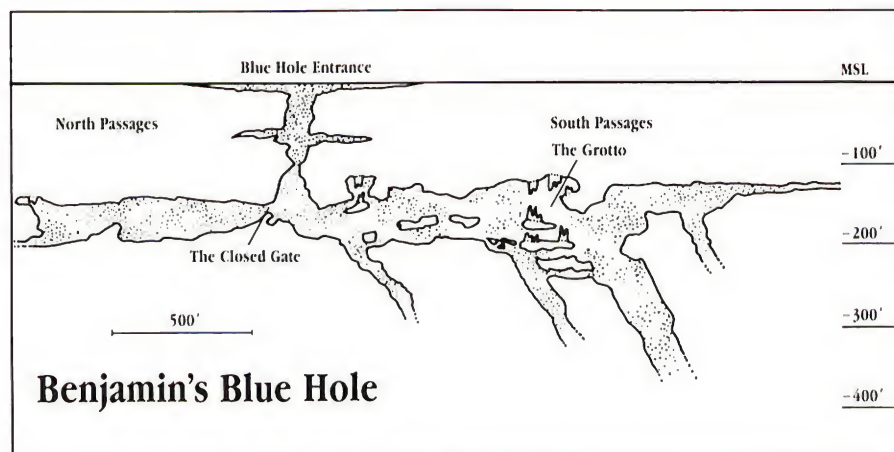
Unlike the better-known river caves, such as Carlsbad Caverns in the United States, or Wookey Hole in the United Kingdom, the Bahamian caves need no main surface entrance or exit for their water. It gets in and out of the porous limestone rock by percolating through a million microfissures, tiny cracks in the otherwise solid rock.

Sometimes the roof of a passage collapses, or major faulting of the rock opens a route to the surface, creating openings big enough for a man to enter. These yawning caverns have a name which conjures up all the mystery of the caves that lie beyond — Blue Holes.

## Braving the deep

The light sandy seafloor of the Bahama Banks gives way to a deeper hue, a rich azure gateway into the world beneath the seas and islands, a three-dimensional labyrinth.

Exploration of the Blue Holes is a hazardous affair. Not for nothing has



cave diving been described as "the world's most dangerous sport." To the skills of an expert scuba diver must be added those of the speleologist, or caver, blending the two into a discipline more complex than either. To venture into underwater caves without both these skills is to court disaster.

Hundreds of divers, many with extensive open-water experience, have died in underwater caves.

A few dedicated explorers have begun a serious study of the Blue Holes. One of these early explorers, a Canadian named George Benjamin, put an end to the stories of monsters that lurked in the caves.

In local legend, the lusca — mythical creatures that were half-squid, half-shark — inhabited the Blue Holes. Their indrawn breath was supposed to be strong enough to create whirlpools at

**Continued . . .**



"Floating free in inner space, surrounded on three sides by solid rock and on the fourth by a blue misty wall that led to air, I watched tiny, red shrimps scurry across the debris on the floor of the cave. Curving down the water towards me, another shrimp homed in with a huge, struggling black beetle held tightly in its claws. Where it got that, God only knows.

"Looking up, through the crystal waters, the mixing zone between the fresh water above and the salt water in which I was suspended looked like a haze of cloud, the dim light that filtered in

from the entrance refracted by the density difference between the two waters.

"Behind me, amongst the boulders on the floor, a narrow passage led even deeper, into absolute blackness, where the only light was from the torches I carried with me. There, tiny creatures swam, sightlessly, in broken lines."

*Rob Palmer, expedition leader of the Andros Project describing one of the mysterious Andros Island Blue Holes*



the cave mouths, drawing fishing boats and their crews to a terrible doom. Benjamin showed the whirlpools to be a natural phenomenon, the result of fierce currents flowing into the caves, drawn beneath the surface by variations in tidal times on either side of the islands. When the currents reversed, water mushroomed out of the caves, cold and clear, creating "boiling" mounds on the surface of the sea.

#### Ambitious project

The Andros Project is the largest and most ambitious research project mounted to study these enigmatic underwater caves.

It is an international effort which has linked scientists and cave divers from the United Kingdom, United States, Bermuda and the Bahamas in a complex, multidisciplinary examination of the geological and biological aspects of the Blue Holes.

The group is led by Rob Palmer, one of the United Kingdom's most experienced cave divers, who is an old hand at Blue Hole exploration. Last summer, the team began exploring and studying Blue Holes on Andros Island, the largest — and one of the least developed — of the Bahamas. Here some of the longest and deepest Blue Holes exist.

During Benjamin's explorations in the mid-1960s, it was discovered that the caves had once stood over the sea. The divers swam into submerged galleries full of stalagmites and stalactites that could only have formed during the ice age. Then, sea levels were up to 400 feet lower than today, and the caves were dry for a time.

Benjamin catalogued more than 100 Blue Holes on Andros. Some are at sea, inside the barrier reef that runs along the eastern coast of the island. Some are inland, piercing the forests of tropical pine and thick evergreen scrub. The inland caves are deep, water-filled shafts, with circular openings that bell



*Divers experiment with mixed gas rebreathers at research center*

out underwater. Some are more than 200 feet across and up to 400 feet deep.

Benjamin's expeditions of the 1960s and early 1970s drew to a close after two of his closest diving companions died in the waters, one while trying to set a scuba diving record in a deep marine trench, and the other while attempting to explore a cave shaft. The body of the latter was never recovered.

Exploration on Andros waned until the early 1980s, when a team of United Kingdom divers used advanced diving techniques to safely pass through constricted sections and add several miles of cave passage to those previously explored. In the process, they set a new record for submarine cave exploration,

going more than one kilometer — over one-half mile — into the hole.

#### Underwater science

The caves provide geologists and hydrologists a chance to see first-hand the complex geological processes beneath the islands. The caves form along the boundary between the fresh water "lens" — the body of accumulated rainwater that provides the only fresh water on the islands — and the underlying salt water.

In similar limestone areas, this boundary was the region in which hydrocarbons — oils — accumulated. By looking at this underground "reservoir" which is forming, geologists hope to find information that may help in extracting oil from similar but much older geological formations.

The Andros inland work — in hot, sticky, mosquito-ridden conditions — centered around a Shell Exploration project to look at the effect which the water layers in the cave had on the limestone bedrock of the island. This mixing zone, with fresh water on top, saline under, and a corrosive brackish zone between, is believed to be one of the main ones in which the caves form.

In the area of biology, different zones of life forms are found as divers explore the Blue Holes. It is not uncommon to see sponges, anemones, hydroids and crustaceans deep inside the dark zone, living in the utter blackness, far from their traditional homes on the outside reef.

Some species were carried inside as larvae, while others use the caves as a part time shelter: grunts, snappers, parrotfish, angelfish, octopus, moray eels and sharks.

Few "troglobites" — animals that have adapted to a completely underground existence — have been found in the Blue Holes. One that has been found, however, is the lucifuga, a blind eel-like fish.

The creatures of the inland Blue Holes are tiny, and include several species previously unknown to science. In

1980, a diving biologist discovered a "living fossil," a new class of crustacean that most closely resembles extinct creatures more than 100 million years older than anything alive today. Less than an inch long, the creature looked like a dainty swimming centipede.

#### Project plans

This summer, some of the world's most experienced divers will participate in the main portion of the Andros Project, which will involve exploring and mapping the caves behind the Blue Holes' entrances. In this area, where some caves descend more than 100 meters — 109 yards — divers have lost their lives.

As in 1986, the team will use COMPAQ Personal Computers in their research efforts. Last summer, a COMPAQ PORTABLE II® was set up at the expedition base, a borrowed house on the seashore near the fishing village of Little Creek. Marine biologists, who were compiling comparative surveys of the wildlife in the marine Blue Holes, analyzed the water chemistry and quantified their work using the computer. Back in the United Kingdom, they used it to further analyze their results.

"We were impressed at how easy it was to transport the COMPAQ computer, and how little difficulty we had getting it on board planes," Palmer said.

One of the main results the group hopes to achieve is a conservation strategy for the magnificent underwater caves. The beauty and accessibility of the Lucayan Caverns drew commercial diving organizations, which used the daylight entrance chamber as a tourist dive site. The Bahamas National Trust greatly limited access to the world's only underwater cave national park to prevent the fragile cave from being altered too greatly by human interference.

In addition to Compaq, organizations supporting the project include the Royal Geographical Society, the British Sports Council, Shell Exploration and Virgin Diver's World.



*▲ In underwater caves below the waters of the Bahamas, divers have discovered stalagmites and stalactites that evidently formed during the ice age*

*Creatures of the Blue Holes are tiny, and include some species previously unknown to science ►*





## Working hard, fast



*Both desktop and portable manufacturing plants in Houston are working at peak capacity to meet the tremendous orders placed in recent months for COMPAQ products. Meanwhile, a PCB assembly facility in Singapore has opened to help meet the load, and work progresses on additional manufacturing plants in Scotland and Houston. The Scottish plant is planned to start up in late 1987, while Compaq Center West facilities also are expected to be completed by the end of 1987.*

## Traffic heavy enroute, at work

People working at Brookhollow and Sommermeyer confront heavy traffic and occasional tie-ups because of construction underway on a portion of Highway 290.

At Compaq Center, construction is also evident as Park River Drive — which leads into the facility from FM 149 — is extended to Louetta. Driveways inside the facility grounds are also to be continued to Compaq Center West, currently under construction.

Personnel and visitors heading for Compaq Center may encounter heavier traffic once they get on the company's campus than in getting there.

As the concentration of people working at and visiting the site grows,

people are urged to be courteous and cautious, according to Al Waters, Manager, Corporate Security.

Speeds should be 10 m.p.h. or below. Drivers should be particularly watchful at brick-covered areas in the drives, which are designated walkways for pedestrians.

"Improper parking is the biggest problem we have," Waters noted. "In many cases, improper parking limits the vision of other people driving in the area. Basically, if people will just drive and park courteously, we can avoid most problems and keep traffic moving fairly smoothly within the facility grounds."



## Prices reduced on several products

Suggested resale prices have been reduced for the COMPAQ PORTABLE II, Models 2 and 4, to position the entire portable product line in the market.

The suggested price of the Model 2 was reduced from \$2,999 to \$2,699. The Model 4 was reduced from \$4,499 to \$3,999.

These models' prices also will be reduced in two programs with special discount structures: the Employee Purchase Program and the government sales program.

## Disk caching extended to additional models

Compaq recently announced that disk caching has been added as a standard feature for COMPAQ Computers with fixed disk drives.

Earlier this year, the company announced the availability of disk caching for all models of the COMPAQ DESKPRO 386. Now added to that list are the COMPAQ DESKPRO 286®, COMPAQ PORTABLE III™, COMPAQ PORTABLE II and COMPAQ DESKPRO®.

The disk caching software utility reduces the amount of time users spend waiting for data retrieval. It provides performance improvements of up to 50% in applications requiring frequent fixed disk drive access, such as database and accounting programs.

Disk caching works with COMPAQ

base and extended memory (up to 640 kilobytes, and 640 kilobytes and above, respectively). It also works with expanded memory capabilities provided by various third party manufacturers that meet the Lotus-Intel-Microsoft (LIM) Expanded Memory Specification (EMS).

This utility is provided on the USER PROGRAMS diskette included with all COMPAQ computers except the COMPAQ Portable. It also is located on the SUPPLEMENTAL USER PROGRAMS diskette provided with the COMPAQ DESKPRO 386.

Current owners of COMPAQ products can obtain the disk caching utility from Authorized COMPAQ Computer Dealers.



*As people arrive at work, traffic is heavy at parking garages*

## MS-DOS transition

Compaq has discontinued MS-DOS Version 3, Release 3.1, in favor of a newer version.

MS-DOS Version 3, Release 3.2 is recommended for all COMPAQ Personal Computers. Released February 17, it

contains several new commands and enhanced utilities designed to take advantage of specific COMPAQ product features.

The new version is compatible with previous releases of MS-DOS.



# Writer to answer question: How does one get published?

When Isabella Bird Bishop was in her forties, she left England to walk 8,000 miles up the Yangtze River in China. She felt this was sure to cure her of the headaches and backaches she suffered in England. She went alone, outfitted with only a tea service, a medicine chest, an umbrella and the typical dress of Victoria England. The year was 1878.

She didn't walk the entire way. Part of the time she was carried by bearers, and she floated the 2,000 miles from Ch'eng-tu to Shanghai on a flat-bottomed boat as 16 men rowed to the beat of a gong. The outing proved so beneficial to her health that she left for Malaysia, India and Tibet, leaving a stack of diaries in her wake, all masterpieces of understatement: "When I was sleeping in a buffalo stable in Turkey..."

...When Mrs. Bishop was 70, she began to tire, so she headed to Morocco for a rest. She died three years later after another lengthy trek through China. She was rumored to have said that she wished she could have seen New Guinea, but she was married, and "it was hardly a place to take a man."

from "Adventurous Victorians," by Linda Siemers  
Travel Holiday magazine - June, 1987

"Since there was so much exploration going on in the nineteenth century, people were just as excited as we are about space exploration," explained Linda Siemers, Technical Writer, Corporate Communications Services. "It was not difficult to get journals published."

From published journals of nineteenth-century women travelers, Siemers wrote "Adventurous Victorians," an article highlighting the travels of Anna Leonowns (on whom the play *The King and I* is based), Mary Kingsly, who used her umbrella to push hippos out of her way while canoeing in Africa, and other courageous women travelers.

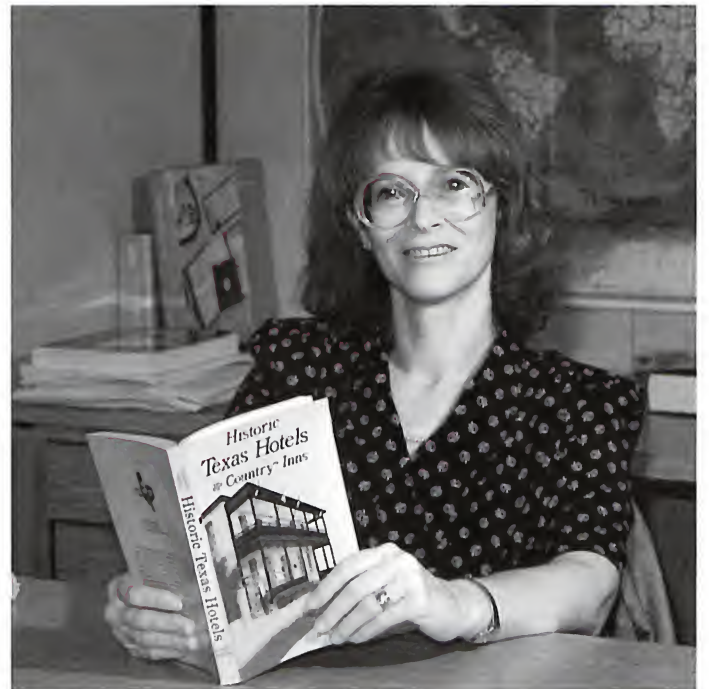
It's not so easy to get journals or any other pieces published these days, according to Siemers. She and a friend, Sally Ross, spent two years trying to

find a publisher for their book, *Historic Texas Hotels and Country Inns*. It finally was published in 1982 by Eakin Press, a Texas publishing house, and has sold 6,000 copies. It is sold in local bookstores.

"Once you get something in print, it's easier the next time," noted Siemers, who has since written articles for *Houston City Magazine*, *Texas Highways*, the *Houston Post* and *Travel Holiday*.

She will share her experiences August 4 with the ACE Writers Club, in a presentation on how to get books and articles published. All interested persons are invited to bring a sack lunch and attend the noon meeting, held in CCA-II, Room 2350.

"I thought it would be easy to come up with someone to publish it. That was as hard as writing it.



Linda Siemers with her book on historic Texas hotels and inns

"I read these articles about how to get a story published. I contacted one publisher, who decided after six months not to do it. I contacted another publisher, and there was another six-month wait."

Finally, Siemers said, she got a copy of *The Writer's Market*, which lists addresses and markets of publishers. Using that as a reference, she wrote 150 publishers. A year later, the book was produced.

"We had it partially written when we sought a publisher. It's hard if you're not an established writer. They may want the whole thing before they make up their minds."

Siemers writes primarily about travel and history, because her enjoyment of travel fostered a curiosity about places and events, "and I found the answers were in history."

A former junior high school English teacher, Siemers also worked on a medical journal before getting into technical writing 10 years ago. She is pursuing a Masters degree in history at the University of Houston, a result of her research and writing in travel and history.

"Travel writing's still a very good market," she said, wryly admitting that one of her articles was of a more technical nature, however — taking readers step-by-step through her teenage son's hair styling ritual. The humorous article not only explained the process of styling his hair with purple mousse, but also included helpful tips on where to find it.

Siemers speculated that writers' groups can be extremely helpful for aspiring authors, who can pass tips back and forth and encourage one another.

"No matter what you're trying to do outside of work, it requires so much determination and energy. Sometimes a word or two from someone can inspire you.

"In your work life you have people around to encourage you. On your own, you're not getting it from anyone else. It's very important," she said.

**The ACE Writers Club meets the first Tuesday of every month at noon in Room 2350. Call Sandra Maddux, 374-2201, or Liz Gullion, 374-2275, for details.**

## Scotland plant



Work has proceeded rapidly on the Scotland manufacturing plant, scheduled to begin shipping products in late 1987. Personnel currently work out of temporary quarters on the site



The 40-acre site, near Erskine, is located near other high-tech companies in an area called "Silicon Glen"



# Art collection offers diversity

Throughout the hallways, offices and meeting rooms in the buildings at Compaq Houston facilities is a collection of original artwork. The works are by prominent local, national and international artists, including Henry Sinn, Frank Faulkner, Bob Wade and photographers Cay Lang and Alex Maclean.

Whether you've studied a particular piece at great length or simply allowed it a passing glance, you no doubt have an opinion of it.



*A nomadic tribe produced this Moroccan rug*

"Show the same piece to 10 people and you'll get 10 different opinions," said Karyn Ponder, a Houston art consultant and President of Pondering, Inc. After evaluating the company's architecture, image and other pertinent data, she searched her slide directory of 5,000 artists around the world to suggest appropriate artwork. She also accesses a database of artists using a COMPAQ DESKPRO 386.

Ponder worked closely with Karen Walker, Director, Facilities, to select the core of the collection. "I didn't just buy what I like. I bought something for everyone," Walker said. The 90-plus art pieces in the company's diverse collection include various media: paper, oil on canvas, rug weavings, and a glass sculpture.

Several of the pieces are by prominent Houston artists:

"Moondance - De Chelly" by Charles Schorre (pronounced "score-e") hangs behind the reception desk in the lobby of one of the Chasewood buildings. The 36"x48" oil on canvas is an

abstract landscape of the Canyon de Chelly in Arizona. A sweeping scene of bright blues and beiges and a crescent moon, "Moondance" is typical Schorre, who is known for his use of pure, raw colors. Named Texas Artist of the Year in 1986 by the Art League, Schorre has received honors for teaching, graphic design, illustration, book design, photography, painting and drawing. He has also published books about art, including *Life Class*.

Also on display in the Chasewood lobby is one in a series of 14 Texas flag paintings by Trudy Sween, whose contemporary interpretations of Texas' proudest symbol were selected by the Texas Senate to hang in the capitol's rotunda in Austin. One of the other flags in the series is owned by Vice President George Bush. The 83"x49" flag in the Compaq collection is painted over a small Texas landscape. Sween's use of clean, quick brush strokes add an attractive quality to the canvas and her unusual symbols (pinwheels and squiggles) make the wide, solid bands of color on the flag more interesting. Other Sween works in the Compaq collection include several mixed media on paper. Three of them hang in the small meeting rooms off the main reception area at Compaq Center.

In the hall opposite the computer room, on the second floor of CCA I, is a 25"x35" rubbing on paper of the brass San Jacinto Street Bridge dedication plaque. An unusual art form, the bridge rubbings in the Compaq art collection are the work of Kirk Farris. Farris' vividly colored rubbings were part of an exhibition called "Buffalo Bayou Bridges", a survey of Houston's river landscapes through archival photographs, blueprints of bridges, and rubbings of the dedication plaques. Calling the bridges "urban icons," Farris' rubbings are historically significant in a city whose urban growth and strength was so dependent upon its water and bridges. Farris' work can also be found in CCM.

Other Houston artists included in the collection are Trish Witcher, David Caton and Robert Wade. Witcher's "Lion Heart" is a 44"x43" tribute to the late Georgia O'Keefe, America's foremost female painter. The pastel oil painting can be found on the fourth floor of CCA III. Other Witcher works



*Trish Witcher produced this white-purple pastel oil painting*

are found in CCM. Caton invents fantasy landscapes in his mind and transfers the images to canvas. A 48"x60" oil on canvas by Caton hangs in the 4th floor boardroom of CCA-I. A landscape by Wade hangs near the first floor applicant's entrance between CCA-II and CCA-III. His unusual artistic style is achieved by superimposing a photo negative onto the canvas and painting over the image.

Not all of the art in the collection is by local artists, nor is it all young, fresh work. Some pieces were purchased because Ponder and Walker believe they are good investments and part of what makes the varied art collection "one of the best in Houston." For example, the Moroccan rugs were produced 20-50

years ago by Berbers, a nomadic tribe inhabiting the Atlas Mountains of Morocco. Their age-old techniques are closely guarded and passed down from mother to daughter. The Berbers used vegetable dyes to color silk, wool and other fabrics in their weavings. Their nomadic lifestyle necessitated assembling and disassembling their looms at various stages of a weaving, leading to imperfections in their unique folk art.

To help tell the story behind the entire collection, Walker may soon place small display cards next to each piece. The cards will provide significant facts about the artwork and the artist's concept. A catalog of the collection photographs and descriptions of the artwork will be produced this summer.

## New subsidiary announced in Spain

Compaq recently announced a new subsidiary, COMPAQ Computer S.A., based in Madrid, Spain.

The company will market its full line of COMPAQ Personal Computers in Spain through the new subsidiary.

COMPAQ products have previously been distributed in Spain by five independent dealers and their outlets in Spain's main urban centers. Product shipments, sales and service support were handled by COMPAQ Computer GmbH, the company's European headquarters in Munich, West Germany.

"In Spain, the demand for advanced business personal computers is growing faster than in most European markets today," said Bruno Jeanroy, Sales and Market Manager, COMPAQ Computer S.A. "The establishment of a Spanish subsidiary will allow us to better meet these end-users' needs, by providing full service and technical support to the growing number of Authorized Dealers selling our products in Spain."



Compaq continues to increase the level of support for international markets through increasing investments in international manufacturing, purchasing and local subsidiary support, according to Eckhard Pfeiffer, Senior Vice President, International Operations.

"In the last year, we began construction on a European manufacturing facility in Erskine, Scotland to begin production by year's end, and on June 12, we inaugurated the opening of our first international manufacturing site for printed circuit boards in Singapore — COMPAQ Asia. In Europe, during the last year, we opened full-service subsidiaries, in Italy and in the Netherlands, and now our sixth European subsidiary, Spain."

COMPAQ Personal Computers are available in 40 countries through a worldwide network of more than 3,000 Authorized Dealers.



*Detail of landscape by Robert Wade*



# Lunchroom dominoes are fast-paced game

Scene: CCA-I lunchroom

Time: Noon

Characters: Information

Management personnel

"You panicked on me! I had it wired! I wanted him to take that double six..."

"Sorry; I didn't know you had the six-four," apologized a contrite domino partner.

For those whose domino-playing days were left behind years ago, and have long since been replaced by fast-paced video games, dominoes may sound slow.

Not so. A group of people from Information Management plays quickly, and with great intensity, during most noon-hours at CCA-I.

"It's relaxing — as long as you don't go back black and blue," ruefully commented one cutthroat player as he surveyed his hand preparatory to making a "bid" — committing himself to taking a certain number of "tricks,"



*Marcia Hillegeist studies her hand*

which translates to winning a hand in the domino game of "42" — similar to the card game of Spades.

One group is brave enough to play with dominoes bearing the Texas A&M

"Aggie" logo — which doesn't noticeably put them off their game.

"We got Celtics dominoes," sniffed a player from another group as he drew a hand of green-and-white dominoes,

apparently not fazed by the fact that the Boston team recently lost the National Basketball Association title to the Los Angeles Lakers.

As one group discussed how to figure out what dominoes other players hold in their hand, members of another group begged a visiting photographer not to interrupt a teammate — "he takes so long to bid already!"

On two things the groups are in absolute agreement: they love their domino games, and they believe the advantages are great.

For one thing, they noted, it's cheaper. You bring your lunch and play dominoes, for which there is no charge.

For another, people who leave the site for lunch and don't hurry back can count on having to park on the top of the parking garage, or in surface parking. "You don't have to lose your cool parking space," sighed a player.

## Safety, security tips provided for travelers

As increasing numbers of people head off for summer vacations, the company's Corporate Loss Prevention department offers tips on safety and security to help ease the anxiety of travel, as well as worry about possessions left at home.

"We hope no one encounters difficult situations, but one way to prevent it is to prepare well and travel smart," observed Al Waters, Manager, Corporate Security.

"There are many simple things you can do to protect your home that don't cost much money," he continued.

"For example, cut a broom handle and place it in a sliding glass door track to prevent it from being pried open after you've gone. Let your neighbors know you'll be gone, and ask one of them to pick up your mail and newspaper, or stop delivery while you're gone. Put your living room light on a timer that comes on right at dusk. Cut shrubs below window level. Install good outside lighting and deadbolt locks.

"These are all things you can do that aren't expensive. Running floodlights, for example, is less expensive than running a ceiling fan.

"You should be able to relax on your vacation, and travel without anxiety. Preparing for your trip, and taking a few simple precautions, can go a long way in ensuring that your trip and return home will be free from problems."

While you're gone, a few tips to keep in mind:

- ☐ Avoid high crime areas of a city;
- ☐ Use traveler's checks and credit cards, not cash;
- ☐ Avoid ground floor hotel rooms to reduce the risk of unauthorized persons entering through a window, and keep your door locked at all times, even when you are in the room;

- ☐ Place a "Do Not Disturb" sign on your door and turn on the radio or television when you leave;
- ☐ Place a chair or piece of luggage in front of the door to alert you to trespassers. You may want to carry your own slip lock or portable alarm;
- ☐ Be suspicious of unusual calls to your room. Do not admit visitors without fully identifying them;
- ☐ Lock all valuables in the hotel safe;
- ☐ Tag all luggage with your name and company address. Do not use your business card or title;
- ☐ Avoid using public transportation by yourself;
- ☐ Do not leave luggage or valuable items visible inside parked cars;
- ☐ Keep your car at least half full of gasoline. Properly inflate spare tire and make sure it has all tire repair equipment with it;
- ☐ Keep your car doors and windows closed and locked;
- ☐ Do not park your car on the street overnight. Use a parking garage and take the keys.

In choosing a hotel, look for one that has sprinklers and fire detection devices. Upon arrival, find the fire exits and check the layout of your room.

In the event of fire, be sure to telephone the hotel operator to report it. Check your guest room door handle (if it is hot, do not open it). If possible, proceed to the nearest fire exit, never the elevators.

Enter the stairwell and close the door behind you, exiting downward.

If you cannot go down, use your judgment and go to the roof or back to your room. If you go to your room, turn off the air conditioner, fill the bathtub with water, and soak sheets or towels and place them under the hall door, and block vents that might be emitting smoke. Call the fire department and inform them of your room number and tell them you are staying in

your room.

Many people also travel domestically and internationally on business for Compaq. A brochure, "Travel Security & Safety Guidelines," will soon be available upon request. Also, for those traveling internationally, Loss Prevention personnel offer a personal briefing to help you prepare to travel safely.

"We're here as a resource for people working at Compaq," Waters said.

"People are the most valuable asset the company has. We feel that protecting them, and supplying them with information to help them travel safely domestically and internationally, just makes good sense."

**To obtain a copy of "Travel Security & Safety Guidelines" or arrange an international travel briefing, contact Mindy Monroe, 374-2373.**



*The Security Control Center handles emergency calls, as well as site monitoring and other security tasks*

## For emergencies: call 374-1000

In the event of emergencies, people working at CCA, CCM and Chase-wood facilities should call 374-1000, the Security Control Center located in CCA-III.

A security representative will dispatch appropriate responses to the emergency, whether it involves accident, injury, sudden illness, request for ambulance, fire, explosion, security emergency, bomb threat or any life-threatening situation.

The Security Control Center is staffed 24 hours a day and houses the monitors which receive images from

cameras located throughout Compaq facilities.

The center is staffed by members of Southwest Protective Services, Inc., which provides security services for Compaq. Representatives recently got a new look when they replaced their uniforms with an ensemble distinguished by maroon blazers.

Security representatives are currently undergoing additional training, ranging from first aid and other emergency procedures to courses leading to state certification in security work.



# Computer Questions & Answers

If you have questions regarding hardware or software that you use, or would like to use, send it to **Inside & Out** on the Reader Response Card enclosed in this issue. Below are some frequently-asked questions regarding computer functions and products.

**Q: What is required for temporary foreign operation of a COMPAQ Personal Computer at 220 volts and 50 Hz?**

A: For the COMPAQ desktop, COMPAQ Portable, COMPAQ PLUS®, and COMPAQ PORTABLE 286 Personal Computers, Compaq recommends the use of a step-down transformer that is capable of producing a true sine wave output. This transformer is available from most electronic supply houses. The wattage required will depend on the particular COMPAQ product.

The Automatic Power Switching Board is available as an option for the COMPAQ PORTABLE II Personal Computer. The COMPAQ PORTABLE II Personal Computer has automatic power switching included in the power supply.

**Q: Does the Automatic Power Switching Board that is available for the COMPAQ PORTABLE II Personal Computer work in the COMPAQ Portable Computer?**

A: No. The COMPAQ Portable Computer power supply will not accommodate the Automatic Power Switching Board.

**Q: Will a third-party monochrome monitor work with the COMPAQ Video Display Controller Board?**

A: Single color composite and RGB monitors will work, but a true monochrome monitor will not work. Because of a difference in internal sweep rates, the COMPAQ Video Display Controller Board does not support third-party monochrome monitors. To use a monochrome monitor you must use a monochrome adapter. Attempting to use a monochrome monitor with the COMPAQ Video Display Controller Board may result in damage to the monochrome monitor.

**Q: Does the 1.2-Megabyte Diskette Drive read and write a 360-Kbyte diskette reliably?**



*The COMPAQ DESKPRO family*

A: If you format a 360-Kbyte diskette in a 360-Kbyte Diskette Drive, you can read and write the diskette in a 1.2-Megabyte Diskette Drive reliably. Once you write to a 360-Kbyte diskette in a 1.2-Megabyte Diskette Drive, you can no longer read the diskette reliably in a 360-Kbyte Diskette Drive.

If you format a 360-Kbyte diskette in a 1.2-Megabyte Diskette Drive, you can read and write reliably only in a 1.2-Megabyte Diskette Drive. The diskettes are formatted physically different in each drive.

**Q: Can a 360-Kbyte Diskette Drive be used in the 80386- and 80286-based products?**

A: Yes. The 360-Kbyte Diskette Drive can be purchased as a sales option kit.

**Q: How can I ensure that the time remains set on the COMPAQ Portable or COMPAQ DESKPRO Personal Computers that contain an asynchronous communications/clock board?**

A: The correct time is maintained by including the line DEVICE=CLOCK.SYS in the CONFIG.SYS file. Refer to the MS-DOS Reference Guide for more information regarding the CONFIG.SYS file and device drivers.

**Q: Can I increase the length of the keyboard and monitor cables on COMPAQ desktop personal computers?**

A: No. Cables must be certified to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device, pursuant to Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC rules. Any changes to the cable length nullifies the FCC approval.

**Q: Can a 40-, 70-, or 130-Megabyte Fixed Disk Drive be formatted as one drive when using MS-DOS?**

A: No. MS-DOS recognizes only 32 megabytes per partition. Drives over this size must be partitioned into more than one logical drive. This is accomplished through the use of the DISKINIT utility. DISKINIT prompts the user to enter the partition configuration desired, formats the drive, and creates a CONFIG.SYS file with the appropriate device driver required for partitioning (ENHDISK.SYS). Refer to the MS-DOS Version 3 Reference Guide for more information on the DISKINIT utility.

**Q: What is the power supply output rating of the COMPAQ Portable Computer?**

A: The COMPAQ Portable power supply output is rated at 120 watts steady state.

**Q: Can I upgrade the 8-MHz COMPAQ DESKPRO 286 Personal Computer to the new 12-MHz COMPAQ DESKPRO 286 Personal Computer?**

A: No. The 12-MHz COMPAQ DESKPRO 286 Personal Computer has a new chassis, different grounding, and different RFI shielding. This shielding is required to comply with FCC Class B certification requirements.

**Q: How can I constantly know which directory I am in?**

A: You can have the command "PROMPT \$P\$G" put into your AUTOEXEC.BAT file. Refer to your MS-DOS Reference Guide for more information regarding the AUTOEXEC.BAT file.

Your new file should look similar to the example below:

```
ECHO OFF
VER
DATE
TIME
PROMPT $P$G
PATH C:\DOS
```

**Q: Is there a way for me to see what directory and sub-directories have been set up?**

A: Yes. First, enter CD\DOS (if you would like a printout of your directory press CTRL PRTSC). Now, enter Tree/F. Your printout should begin and look like the example below.

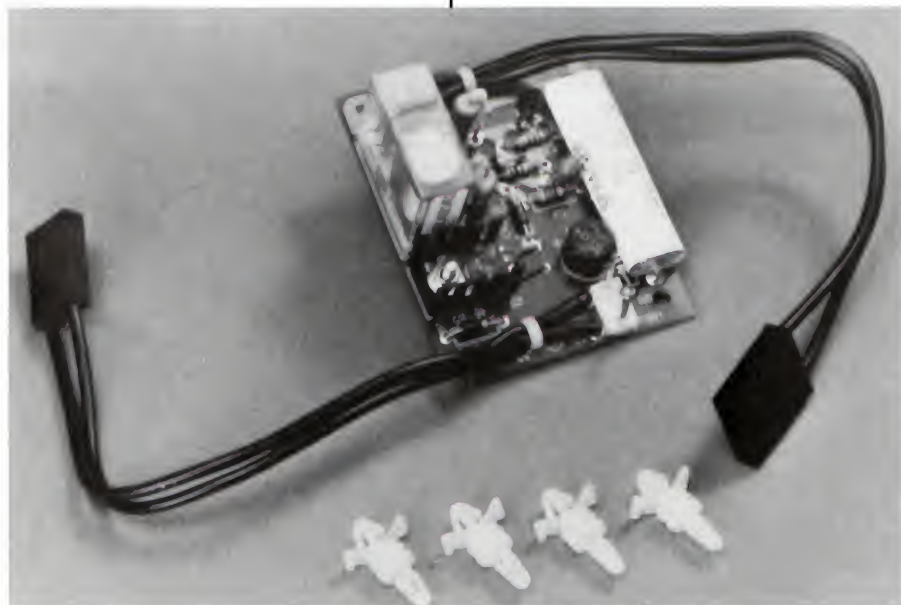
```
Path: \123\Files
Sub-directories: None
Files: Names of your files will follow
Remember, press CTRL PRTSC
again to turn off print function.
```

**Q: Recently I deleted my backup files within my WordStar directory. Is there an easier way to delete them than one file at a time?**

A: Yes. First, direct your system to your WordStar directory by entering CD\WS. You should now have C:\WS> on your screen (assuming you have a fixed disk). Issue the command: Erase C:\WS\\*.bak This assumes your WordStar directory is named WS.

**Q: How can I get a software package upgraded?**

A: You can contact our purchasing department and they can assist you in obtaining the upgrade for most popular software packages.



*Automatic power switching board is available for the COMPAQ PORTABLE II*



# Volunteer efforts spur activities, offer experience



*Liz Dusek helps youngster with craft project*

**B**udgets, schedules, materials procurement, vendors, mass mailings — being a volunteer for the Association of Compaq Employees (ACE) sometimes begins to sound like being a department manager.

In many cases, it is.

"People get good experience at coordinating and managing through these ACE activities," pointed out Barry Puls, ACE Chairman. "As the number of activities and participants have grown, we've had to become more sophisticated as an organization."

All full-time Houston personnel are automatically members of ACE. Annually, an election is held to select the board of directors which will serve as the decision-making body. Numerous



*Dessie Roedersheimer and other aerobic class members move tables and chairs in preparation for the class*

committees recommend and supervise programs for sports leagues, special interest clubs, fitness activities, discount programs and special events such as the recent company picnic, which drew more than 5,000 people.

From the person making telephone calls to the board of directors, all the

people involved are volunteers. The organization has no paid staffers.

Ideally, a person can take up to nine hours a month of work time to work on ACE efforts, with the supervisor's approval. For most, volunteer efforts are carried out largely after-hours.

Jim Decker, who heads the ACE Chess Club, said he averages about two hours a week now, fewer than when the club was getting started, "maybe a little more now that I'm teaching chess classes at noon," he reflected.

The group recently changed its meeting night to Monday so as not to conflict with bowling league play, for people who wanted to do both. Members also can represent the club in area tournaments.

"There are really not as many tournaments in Houston as I'd expected. Up north, it's a good winter activity — of course, there's no real winter here. However, it's big in California."

Members play against one another at Chess Club meetings, and have held club tournaments. Sometimes, time is a factor, however — "Last year, not everyone finished their games, so it was a little hard to decide who would get the trophy," Decker recalled.

Softball teams existed at Compaq before ACE did. The organization now sponsors seven teams — six men's teams and one co-ed team — on which 100 people play.

"For about three weeks prior to the start of the season, it involves getting hold of team captains, getting their paperwork together, getting uniforms and equipment, and general organization," said Ricky Harrington, who heads the softball effort. "After the season starts, it takes virtually no time to maintain. Then it becomes primarily the responsibility of the team captains."

In order to participate in team sports, members must fill out a variety of forms: team applications, waiver and release in event of injury, and others. Someone has to receive and respond to the forms. That's Harrington.

"It has strengthened my organizational skills. There are a lot of details to

keep straight, and we have a fairly substantial budget to forecast. I've learned a lot and I enjoy it," he said.

Dessie Roedersheimer finds that the weight management program fluctuates as much as many people's weight; however, the aerobics program she also coordinates has fairly regular attendance, although there is turnover in participants as some drop out and others join.

"It's helped me get to know a lot of people within the company. I thoroughly enjoy volunteering and helping, and sometimes I may get in over my head. My biggest wish is that we had a fitness center," she said wistfully as she and other class members moved tables and chairs to clear floor space in the CCA-I lunchroom for the after-work class.

"I wish we could get classes for guys going. I've had calls from quite a

lot of stretching and helps build endurance. It's not that hard."

Liz Dusek, co-chairman of the Arts & Crafts Club, welcomes the extra help she has this year in coming up with ideas for arts & crafts classes, and in carrying them out.

"The hardest work is coming up with the children's workshops. You never know just what a little kid is going to be interested in. You may think your idea is the neatest thing, and the kids think it's a dud.

"I love the kids' classes, though. For a lot of them, they won't have an opportunity to get involved in this kind of creative outlet until they're in high school. My own three- and five-year-old kids like to tote paint with me at home, so I buy them cheap pieces of wood and paint and they think that's great stuff.

"You have to drum up more business for your classes all the time so they don't dwindle down to two or three. People offer to help, but you're lucky if half of them show up because something often comes up — a child's doctor appointment or something. I know what it's like to have kids and other responsibilities. That's fine. We appreciate their interest and can use all the help we can get when they can make it."

Even for adults, it's a little hard to figure what might make an interesting class.

"Crafts are like fashions: things are in one day and out the next. Five years ago, everyone was doing macramé. Now that's out. Now people are into country-type things, Amish-type designs, baskets — rustic items are what everyone wants to do right now."

Dusek taught five of seven classes offered last year; this year, other people will handle more of the teaching.

"The reward is when people — adults or children — really seem to be enjoying what they're doing, and learning something new," Dusek said.

**ACE offers many types of activities, with new ones starting up from time to time. If you have an idea for an activity or would like to volunteer time for an activity that is of special interest to you, call the ACE Hotline, 374-2414.**



*ACE picnic volunteers kept in communication throughout the event, which drew more than 5,000 people. Lee Murdy was one of 270 ACE volunteers working at the event*

few who were interested in it, but not enough people signed up to get a class started.

"I hate to use the name 'aerobics' for the class, because people think of jumping and getting out of breath. This is a low-impact class, which involves a



*Designing is hard work*



# P R E V I E W

# "P

review" offers a calendar of company activities. To submit your group's activities for the August issue, please send the information to Vicki Henegar, Houston, mail code M010, by July 6.



## SPECIAL INTEREST

The **Chess Club** has changed its schedule, now meeting on the third Monday of each month. The group meets at CCA II, Room 2302, at 5:15 p.m.

Boards, time clocks and pizza are provided. For details, contact Jim Decker, 374-1944.\*

The **Guadalupe float trip**, originally set for June, has been rescheduled to July 25 because of heavy rains and flooding. Deadline for signing up for the trip is July 15. People who were signed up for the June trip will retain their position on the list. If you signed up for that trip but cannot go, please notify trip coordinators before the deadline, and your money will be refunded. The bus will leave CCM-I promptly at 8:00 a.m. on July 25; organizers ask that you be there no later than 7:45 a.m. The bus will return by 10:00 p.m. Cost for the trip is \$19.50 per person, plus \$3 per rented tube with bottom. The fee includes cost of bus, refreshments on the bus and shuttle service at the river. Meals are not included. To register or cancel a previous registration, contact Liz Scott, 374-2320 or Wendy Simon, 374-1496.

**Basic speech techniques** will be taught in eight lunchtime sessions, to be held Wednesdays at noon beginning July 1 in CCA II, Room 2350. Fee for the course is \$20. Regular Toastmasters meetings are held every Tuesday, except



Liz Scott enjoys a visit to St. Thomas during the Caribbean cruise



Many individuals from Compaq recently participated in the March of Dimes 'Fun Walk.' A team is being sought to compete in Houston's first Corporate Challenge, set for August\*



Compaq personnel received a discount on a recent Caribbean cruise through the ACE Travel Club. The cruise took participants to the islands of Nassau, Puerto Plata, San Juan and St. Thomas. Another cruise is being planned for next summer

the last Tuesday of the month, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting site has been changed to the new Training & Development lab in Chasewood II, Room 6029. For additional information, contact Janet Copeland, 374-2199.\*

Guest speakers, writing instruction and sharing of ideas are offered by the **ACE Writers Club** which meets each Tuesday at noon in CCA II, Room 2350. To receive the group's newsletter or further information on joining, contact Sandra Maddux, 374-2201, or Liz Gullion, 374-2275.\*



## INDIVIDUAL FITNESS

Registrations are being accepted for three upcoming **golf tournaments**. The Tournament Player of Champions (TPC) course at the

Woodlands will be the site for a tournament August 15. Tee times begin at

11:00 a.m. On September 15, golfers will tee off at 9:00 a.m. at Del Lago, near Conroe. A two-day tournament is set October 10-11 at Waterwood Country Club. For details, contact Shirley McDade, 374-1064.\*

Low impact/heavy hands **aerobics** classes are offered three nights a week. Cost of the classes is \$10 per month. Classes meet Monday, Wednesday and



Team captains keep equipment and schedules on track during softball season, which has attracted 100 players

Thursday. A 5:30-6:30 p.m. session is held in the CCA I lunchroom (earlier sessions previously offered at the YMCA are temporarily suspended due to workloads). The first class is free. For information, call Dessie Roedersheimer, 374-1476.\*

A Compaq team will participate in Houston's first Corporate Challenge in late August, pitting a 24-member team against other area corporations to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Participants will compete in swimming, volleyball, sack races, canoeing, running and other activities. The winning team will go to the international competition in Hawaii, set for October. A cheerleading squad is planned to cheer the Compaq team to victory. Both the sports and cheerleading teams will involve extensive training time. To register as a possible candidate for the sports team, contact Cleveland Joseph, 937-2782. To inquire about the cheerleading squad, call Melissa Nix, 374-5573. General information about the competition can be provided by Ruth Howard, 374-5602.\*



## DISCOUNTS

For a list of **Houston area merchants** which provide discounts to Compaq personnel, call the ACE Hotline, 374-2414, or send a request for a copy to mail code

M995. ACE does not endorse any merchant and is not responsible for the results of any transactions.\*

Discounts for **dining and recreation** are available through ACE Employee Services volunteers. To get the name of the volunteer at your location, contact the ACE Hotline, 374-2414.\*



Activities marked with an **asterisk\*** are sponsored by the Association of COMPAQ Employees (ACE). All full-time, permanent COMPAQ employees in Houston are part of ACE, and annually elect a board of directors to represent them. If you are interested in serving as an ACE volunteer, obtaining further information or in starting activities not listed here, call the ACE hotline, 374-2414. Details on activities and registration forms may be found in ACE reader racks at each Houston site.



*"Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in my attempt."*

— Special Olympics Oath

# Washington Special Olympics

Every year for the past 15 years, athletes from across the state of Washington have gathered at Fort Lewis Army Base in Tacoma to participate in the Washington Special Olympics. This is the state qualifying meet of an international nonprofit athletics program for mentally and physically handicapped children and adults.

This year's event, held the weekend of May 30-31, drew 2,200 athletes and more than 5,000 coaches, parents and volunteers, all eager to share in the joy and achievement that have come to symbolize the Special Olympics.

Unlike most athletic events, the Special Olympics doesn't award trophies to people who cross the finish line first. Rather, Olympians are encouraged to extend themselves by topping their own previous finishing time or score.

Everyone wins something — ribbons and certificates, or gold, silver and bronze medals (and the opportunity to compete at the national level) for athletes with the best cumulative qualifying score in each event.

From the opening ceremony early Saturday morning to the awards ceremony held at dusk on Sunday, the weekend meet is booked solid with sports events in four major categories: track and field, swimming, soccer and gymnastics.

Individual events included walking and running races; wheelchair relays, slaloms and dashes; softball throws; soccer matches; swimming races and relays; and gymnastics — cheered on with the help of thousands of smiling faces.

"I have never seen such happy people in my life," said Mary Jayne Sanker, a Special Olympics volunteer and administrative assistant with Boeing, a Seattle-based aircraft manufacturer. The company is primary sponsor of the Washington Special Olympics.

The athletes and their coaches spend the year preparing by competing



PHOTOS BY NORTHLIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

## Keeping up with contenders

in smaller qualifying meets. Meanwhile, hundreds of volunteers from organizations such as Boeing and the Fort Lewis Army Base meet to coordinate the management, manpower and financing necessary for an event of this size. Others from around the state donate everything from food and refreshments to T-shirts and transportation, as well as thousands of hours.

Organized by the state office for Special Olympics, the event relies upon volunteers who help out over the weekend and work behind the scenes year-round to coordinate sponsors. They also mail registration, transportation, and housing information to all participants, produce coaches' reports and reports based on athletes' qualifying times from other races, and tally the results.

To keep track of the mountains of paperwork, computer operators at this year's event used three COMPAQ PORTABLE 286 Personal Computers.

About five years ago when the event first became computerized, organizers used a batch system on Boeing's mini-computers to run reports overnight. The reports had to be run a



## Waiting, flag in hand

week or two in advance and were then frozen, not allowing for last-minute changes. Worse yet was the nine-month wait for the final results. Time had to be scheduled well in advance for data input and the actual printing of the reports.

"It was a real mess," recalled Mike Kanaga, a business systems manager at Boeing Computer Services, a division of Boeing. He is also Director of Computing for Boeing Management Association, which manages the Washington Special Olympics.

Three years ago, Kanaga's committee changed to a personal computer-based system, using a track and field software program by Meet Master. The group had only one computer for a single sport. Last year they added one more computer and this year operated three COMPAQ computers at different locations across the Army base.

Kanaga was impressed by the speed and power of the COMPAQ PORTABLE 286 Personal Computers.

"The amount of time the committee saved has really smoothed everything out and made our job a lot more fun," Kanaga said.

Race organizers know that long hours of tedious work, especially paperwork, can kill enthusiasm and keep eager volunteers from donating time in the future. That's one reason saving time is so beneficial to the Special Olympics.

Another reason is the efficiency gained during the event. The portability of the computers has allowed computer operators to be on the sidelines for instant changes and results.

"Now we can make changes a few minutes before the event is run and capture the results as it happens to produce a final report at the end of the race," Kanaga said.



Every athlete is special



Volunteers use COMPAQ computers for instant scoring of Special Olympics events

# COMPAQ®